



Clemente Course Application Fall 2025

What is the Clemente Course?

The Bard College Clemente Course in the Humanities is now accepting applications for its 2025–26 session. Now entering its 28th year, the program offers a college-level introduction to the humanities—philosophy, literature, US history, art history, and critical thinking and writing.

Students attend at no cost. Tuition and books will be provided. Students who successfully complete the two-semester course will earn 6 college credits from Bard College transferable to any higher educational institution. Students who pursue a third semester in the [Bridge](#) program receive an additional 3 credits.

Who qualifies?

You or somebody you know might be the ideal candidate for the Bard College Clemente Course in the Humanities. This national, transition-to-college program provides an introduction to the humanities to anyone coming from a low-income household and who foresees financial or personal difficulty when applying to college or jobs. Applicants must be 16 years of age or older and highly motivated and committed. They do not need a high school degree, but must have the time and desire to attend classes regularly, complete assignments outside of class, and participate fully in the course.

When do classes meet?

Classes will meet every **Tuesday and Thursday from 6–8 pm** at 7 Grand Street, Kingston, NY 12401. **Our first class will be held on Thursday, October 2.**



Learn more about the Clemente Course

- **Watch the PBS film trailer about the Clemente Course:**
<https://vimeo.com/515510403>
- **Meet your professor, Marina van Zuylen**
<https://www.clementecourse.org/post/spotlight-marina-van-zuylen>
- **Meet Lamont Smith '97** (Clemente Course board member) <https://www.clementecourse.org/post/lamont-smith>
- **Meet Anna Mangahas '06** (community organizer)
<https://www.clementecourse.org/post/anna-mangahas>
- **Meet Amelia Templeton '20** (veteran and artist)
<https://www.clementecourse.org/post/amelia-templeton>



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Your application should be emailed to Marina van Zuylen at vanzuyle@bard.edu.

Please apply by October 1, 2025.

Date

Last Name

First Name

Address

Street Name and Number

Apt./Unit No.

City

State

Zip code

Daytime Phone

Evening Phone

Email

Date of Birth

Primary Language

Education

(Are you in high school? Have you already attended college? If yes, at what level?)

Application Essay

Required. Please select from one of the two topics below and write a one-page essay on the following page of this application.

1. Why is education important to you? Alternatively, tell us about a book, essay, or movie that you admire.
2. How could the Clemente Course help you fulfill your goals?



Please write your essay here:
